

**In the Claims**

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for synchronizing a plurality of multiple instances of a storage platform for a hardware/software interface system, said method comprising:

dividing said storage platform into change ~~basic~~-units ~~of granularity~~;

sequentially enumerating changes and tracking said changes on a per change unit basis, wherein a change unit is mapped to a community folder with which each of the plurality of instances synchronizes, each of the plurality of instances storing a mapping of the change unit from a local format to a format of the community folder, the mapping enabling synchronization of the change unit with the community folder;

~~for each of the plurality of~~ instances, tracking ~~the~~ a state of changes for that instance[[s]], as well as ~~the~~ a state of changes for a plurality of other known instances in ~~the~~ a sync community; and

for synchronization, identifying new changes by comparing ~~the~~ enumerated changes for a particular instance with the state of changes for that instance;

wherein said multiple instances of said storage platform comprise a multi-master sync community.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said change unit is an Item.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein a change unit is a Property.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein a change unit is an individual Property of an Item, Extension, or Relationship, but not a Property of a Nested Element in said Item, Extension, or Relationship.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein changes to an instance ~~replica~~ are uniquely enumerated based on a unique replica identification, and wherein said changes are sequentially enumerated for said instance ~~replica~~.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the changes are enumerated at a change unit level.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein conflicts are detected and resolved at a change unit level.

9.-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A system for synchronizing multiple instances of a storage platform for a hardware/software interface systems, said system comprising:

a subsystem for dividing said storage platform into change units;

a subsystem for sequentially enumerating changes and tracking said changes on a per change unit basis, each change unit being mapped to a community folder with which each instance synchronizes, and each instance storing a community identification that identifies at least one sync partner and also storing multiple mappings of change units from a local format to a format of the community folder in order to enable synchronization with the community folder;

a subsystem for tracking, for each instance, ~~the~~ a state of changes for that instance[[s]], as well as ~~the~~ a state of changes for a plurality of other known instances in ~~the~~ a sync community; and

a subsystem for synchronization, identifying new changes by comparing ~~the~~ enumerated changes for a particular instance with the state of changes for that instance;

wherein said multiple instances of said storage platform comprise a multi-master sync community.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein said change unit is an Item.
14. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein a change unit is a Property.
15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 wherein a change unit is an individual Property of an Item, Extension, or Relationship, but not a Property of a Nested Element in said Item, Extension, or Relationship.
16. (Canceled)
17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 wherein changes to an instance ~~replica~~ are uniquely enumerated based on a unique replica identification, and wherein said changes are sequentially enumerated for said instance ~~replica~~.
18. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the changes are enumerated at a change unit level.
19. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein conflicts are detected and resolved at a change unit level.
20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising computer readable instructions for synchronizing multiple instances of a storage platform for a hardware/software interface systems, said computer-readable instructions comprising instructions for:
- dividing said storage platform into change units;
  - sequentially enumerating changes and tracking said changes on a per change unit basis;
  - for each instance, tracking the a state of changes for that instance[[s]], as well as the a state of changes for a plurality of other known instances in the a sync community, each change unit being mapped to a community folder with which each instance synchronizes, and each instance including a community identification that identifies at least one sync partner and also

storing multiple mappings of change units from a local format to a format of the community folder in order to enable synchronization with the community folder; and

for synchronization, identifying new changes by comparing the enumerated changes for a particular instance with the state of changes for that instance;

wherein said multiple instances of said storage platform comprise a multi-master sync community.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable instructions of claim 20 ~~further comprising instruction~~ wherein said change unit is an Item.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable instructions of claim 20 ~~further comprising instruction~~ wherein a change unit is a Property.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable instructions of claim 20 ~~further comprising instruction~~ wherein a change unit is an individual Property of an Item, Extension, or Relationship, but not a Property of a Nested Element in said Item, Extension, or Relationship.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable instructions of claim 20 ~~further comprising instruction~~ wherein changes to an instance replica are uniquely enumerated based on a unique replica identification, and wherein said changes are sequentially enumerated for said instance replica.

26. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable instructions of claim 20 ~~further comprising instruction~~ wherein the changes are enumerated at a change unit level.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable instructions of claim 20 ~~further comprising instruction~~ wherein conflicts are detected and resolved at a change unit level.